

One day, they approached their target from an altitude of 25,000 feet and noticed an absence of anti-aircraft activity in the skies, so they dropped down to 17,000 feet. The formation circled three times to drop their bombs more accurately when a small flare used to follow bombs to their targets ignited in their bomb bay, filling the aircraft with thick, sooty smoke that covered all the windows.

Fearing they were hit by ground fire, the crew grabbed their parachutes and prepared to abandon their plane over enemy territory. Before jumping out, the crew made one last check to see if the pilots were able to make it out safely. They yelled through the intercom to see if they were coming but received no reply. Just as they were ready to bail out, copilot Funderburk yelled out, "Wait."

The smoke was so thick that the pilots were worried about crashing into the other planes in the formation and were too busy flying the plane and clearing the smoke to worry about bailing out. The pilots were able to clear the smoke and fly the airplane and crew safely back to their home base.

The final mission took Pinky deep into enemy territory into Horsching, Austria, where French prisoners of war had recently been liberated from a POW camp. Pinky's crew reconfigured their B-17 bomber to carry 31 prisoners of war back to Paris and their homeland.

Mr. Speaker, for these heroic duties and his selfless service, Pinky Funderburk honors all South Carolinians, and I am proud to recognize him today for receiving the prestigious French Legion of Honor.

CAHOKIA MOUNDS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, southern Illinois is home to one of America's great civilizations in history, many years before this was the United States of America. Its center was at Cahokia, and it was once the largest civilization in today's United States. By 1200 A.D., the community numbered 10,000 to 20,000 strong.

What remains today are the Cahokia Mounds, a 2,200-acre site with more than 70 earth mounds, upon which many of their buildings once stood. This treasure is visited by schools, families, and history buffs, everyone who wants to see this wonderful part of history. It is a critical part of history.

That is why I introduced a bill to make Cahokia Mounds a national park. My bill would help preserve this amazing piece of history for generations to come.

I thank Congressmen CLAY, SHIMKUS, and DAVIS for cosponsoring this bill. This legislation preserves the mounds in their districts, as well.

I also thank the State and local leaders who support our efforts in Illinois,

and I thank the HeartLands Conservancy for its hard work and for being guardians of our history.

I thank my staff for working so hard with other issues that are going on but understanding how important this issue is to future generations, to the opportunity for our children and grandchildren to understand the history of this area in the world. I am proud to be part of these efforts to preserve our past well into the future.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 13 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LANGEVIN) at noon.

PRAYER

Rabbi Mark Getman, Temple Emanu-El of Canarsie, Brooklyn, New York, offered the following prayer:

Heavenly One, our protector and redeemer, guardian of life and liberty, we ask for Your continued blessings as we open this session of the House of Representatives.

May our Nation and its leaders be blessed with Your protection as they continue their work for their constituents across these United States.

God, continue to send Your light to all elected officials across this land, guiding them with Your good counsel and providing them with wisdom and forbearance.

May our Nation and its citizens always work towards world peace and harmony as part and party representing this great Nation.

God of peace and prosperity, bless this House of Representatives and all those who lead, serve, and defend our Nation as they continue to serve with honor, and remember those who have died in defense of our ideals and values.

May the One who makes peace in the universe make peace for all of us, for all the United States, for all the world.

God bless America.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DUNN)

come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. DUNN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING RABBI MARK GETMAN

(Miss RICE of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Miss RICE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome Rabbi Mark Getman of Temple Emanu-El of Canarsie, Brooklyn, and thank him for leading us in prayer this morning on the House floor.

I was proud to invite Rabbi Getman to give the opening prayer today, and I am even more proud to call him a constituent of New York's Fourth Congressional District.

Rabbi Getman is a military veteran, a cancer survivor, a community leader, and a man of deep faith. He embodies the strength, leadership, and patriotism that we look for in every American.

I can't express how grateful I am to Rabbi Getman for making the trip down to Washington today to represent our community and to deliver a message of harmony and compassion. I believe that is a message that our country needs to hear, perhaps now more than ever.

Rabbi Getman graciously reminded us today that we are a country united under God, in our pursuit of prosperity and peace for all people, and he reminded us that this shared purpose is more powerful, more important than any political division we may have, and I couldn't agree more.

As a member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I am beyond appreciative that Rabbi Getman paid such a touching tribute to the brave men and women who wear our uniform today and to those who paid the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our great Nation. As a veteran himself, I know that Rabbi Getman understands that sacrifice better than most.

I want to thank Rabbi Getman once more for his service to our community and to our country and, above all, for taking the time to be here with us today and delivering a much-needed message of unity.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

ANNIVERSARY OF DEATHS OF CAPITOL POLICE OFFICERS JACOB CHESTNUT AND JOHN GIBSON

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1